

Lemonade Stand for Palo Alto Art and Wine Festival

The Lemonade

If using lemon juice, etc. (i.e. THE HARD WAY)

1. Begin in May or June asking people to squeeze and freeze lemon juice in disposable containers: washed yogurt containers, washed cottage cheese containers, etc. Or, lemon juice could be done in ice cube trays and when frozen, dumped into zip lock bags and stored in freezer. This way you do not have to worry about saving, washing, and returning containers. It is also helpful if they label how much it was when liquid – i.e. one cup, 12 ounces, etc.
2. Note: There is very little room for storing frozen juice at the church, so people need to have freezer space at home.
3. Ask people to bring frozen juice 1-3 days before you need it and put it in church refrigerator.
4. Follow recipe for making sugar syrup and mixing lemonade that someone else sent in. Be sure to fill large container with water and get cold. Also, be sure to put frozen containers of juice in refrigerator the night before (Friday and Saturday,) so they will be defrosted when you need them.

Doing it the easy way

1. Watch for a good sale and go to Safeway and buy frozen lemonade, or go to Costco or Smart and Final and see what they have.
2. You could ask for a small donation from people who have spent a lot of time squeezing and mixing in previous years. Some of us would be glad to make one to avoid a lot of work! And, frankly, I think the frozen lemonade tastes just as good as the made from scratch kind.
3. Put from freezer to refrigerator the night before to defrost – at least enough for the first couple of batches.

For either method:

1. Come the night before and get large container of water cold.
2. Ice – you will either need bags of ice or large frozen chunks. If it is very hot weather, the ice cubes melt VERY quickly and dilute the lemonade. You can use a medium bowl, a round or ring jello mold or even a pan to freeze water at home or in the church refrigerator's freezer section. This lasts longer when you put it in the lemonade. The rings or jello molds look especially nice when put in the lemonade. Have 3-4 per day ready.
3. Have some fresh lemons, (2-3 per day,) to slice so you can float some thin lemon slices on top of the bowl of lemonade – it looks really nice.
4. The church has plastic punch bowls and ladles to use, plus cups, etc. This information is with the recipe for the juice/sugar syrup lemonade.

The Workers

1. Sign people up a couple weeks ahead of time – make announcements after church, phone people, etc. One year a middle school Girl Scout troop did some of the shifts and did a wonderful job.
2. You need 2 people per shift so one can leave to make more, take a break, etc. Most people sign up for a 2 hour shift.
3. I think the fair is open from 10-5, but unless it is really hot, there is little business until about 11:30. However, people hang around and don't leave till 5 or a little later, so a LOT of people are walking by from 5-5:45. Try and stay open till then if possible.

The Set Up

1. There is a long heavy table stored with the umbrellas (at least it used to be,) that has a hole in the middle for an umbrella. This requires people without back trouble to set up – 2 women can do it fine, but it is very awkward for one person unless it is someone tall and strong. Set up the table with the umbrella because you will definitely need it by late afternoon.
2. Also set up 3 card tables by trees on grass so they will get some shade in late afternoon. (Card tables are stored in the chair and table closet in Parish Hall.)
3. Have 4 folding chairs at each card table and 2-3 chairs at the lemonade table.
4. There is a tablecloth (may be apricot or light green colored,) with a hole or split in it just for this long table. Also in with other tablecloths are blue gingham cloths for the card tables.
5. Some years, people have put small vases of flowers on card tables. This looks nice and holds the cloths on if it is windy. You can also set rocks from around the tree – kids made one year – on the card tables.
6. Have cups and napkins out plus some church information – we've had booklets some years, but a half page flyer might be appropriate with a welcome message and service times. Might want to check with Ian to see what he wants/ recommends. Have some kind of weight to hold down napkins and flyers – even a slight breeze blows them.
7. If dogs are still allowed, put a large pan or bowl out with water for dogs and label it.
8. One year I brought our 2 gallon container full of water and ice and offered people who didn't want lemonade cold water. If it is really hot, some people will probably want this.
9. Have signs – one on poster board taped to front of table on one or two on those fold out boards or wall or tree. Since the book sale gets a lot of business, we might want a sign there too.
10. Clean up, wash up, put away when done. Write up any notes and add to these before you forget!